SUMMARY

The Facility Stabilization mission consists of the following projects: B-Plant, WBS 1.4.1, Project Baseline Summary (PBS) TP01; Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF), WBS 1.4.2, PBS TP02; Plutonium-Uranium Extraction (PUREX) Facility, WBS 1.4.3, PBS TP03; 300 Area/Special Nuclear Materials, WBS 1.4.4, PBS TP04; Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP), WBS 1.4.5, PBS TP05; Transition Project Management, WBS 1.4.6, PBS TP12; Accelerated Deactivation, WBS 1.4.8, PBS TP10; 324/327 Facility Transition, WBS 1.4.10, PBS TP08; and Hanford Surplus Facility Program (300 Area Revitalization), WBS 1.4.11, PBS TP14.

The B Plant punchlist and turnover package was not completed in March as planned. The delay is attributed to late comment resolution of the B Plant Surveillance and Maintenance (S&M) Phase Safety Analysis Report (SAR). Although this delay postpones the transfer of facility ownership to the Environmental Restoration Contractor (ERC) until June 1999, it does not impact completion of the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) milestone M-82-00, Complete B Plant Facility Transition Phase and Initiate the S&M Phase, as scheduled.

The Facility Effluent Monitoring Plan for WESF was approved and released. This plan assesses effluent monitoring systems and evaluates whether they are adequate to ensure the public health and safety as specified in applicable federal, state and local requirements. Additionally, the Facility Evaluation Board (FEB) inbrief was held in March. The Emergency Preparedness (EP) portion of the review began March 31, with the remaining in-field activities scheduled for the first week of April.

Excellent thermal stabilization progress continued at PFP. Seven cans of plutonium-bearing oxide feed materials were stabilized through the two muffle furnaces in the 234-5Z building with Contractor oversight. This completed Phase III of the thermal stabilization restart plan. The fourth and final phase, which continues the same stabilization process but without Contractor oversight (normal operations) was initiated. Since restart in January, twenty-one cans of plutonium material have been safely stabilized with no unacceptable Loss on Ignition (LOI) data to date. Other progress includes completing a fifteen-month effort to ensure the ten plant systems identified as mission essential are Y2K compliant. This effort, a U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters (DOE-HQ) requirement was completed two weeks ahead of schedule. The aluminum nitrate nanohydrate (ANN) drained from the Plutonium Reclamation Facility (PRF) Tank A-109 was shipped from PFP to San Jose, California for treatment, storage and disposal. This completes the Washington State Department of Health (WDOH) commitment two weeks ahead of schedule. In addition, restrictions on the PRF and the 241-Z Waste Treatment and Handling facility operations, initiated following the PRF Tank A-109 over pressurization event were formally lifted and approved by DOE-RL.

The line item project W-460, “Plutonium Stabilization and Handling (PuSH)” is being re-evaluated to determine a more cost efficient method of plutonium material stabilization and packaging for long term storage. A recommendation for an alternate path forward is expected in April. As a result, the project continues to experience delays toward issuance of the Plutonium Stabilization and Packaging (PuSAP) unit performance specification.

The 324 B Cell project continues to experience delays as a result of the inability to disposition remote-handled Transuranic (RH-TRU) grouted containers and repeated equipment failure. The latest 10-ton crane downtime was limited to fifteen days, a significant improvement over past downtimes. This is primarily due to the quick response of the newly formed Crane Team. Size reduction resumed allowing the completion of the top half of the 1A Rack. A baseline change request (BCR) FSP-99-017 is in process to reconfigure the baseline path forward for the 324 B Cell cleanout project.

Fiscal-year-to-date milestone performance (EA, DOE-HQ, FO, and RL) shows that 9 of 22 milestones (41 percent) were completed on or ahead of schedule, 2 milestones (9 percent) were completed late, and 11 milestones (50 percent) are overdue. Three FY 1997 milestones and two FY 1998 milestones remain overdue. Details can be found in the milestone exception report beginning on page F: 6-1.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed the WESF Effluent Monitoring Plan. (Planned)
- Initiated the FEB assessment fieldwork at WESF. (Planned)
- Completed Phase III thermal stabilization activities at PFP and initiated Phase IV activities (normal operations); twenty-one cans of plutonium material stabilized to date. (Planned)
- Completed a fifteen-month effort to ensure the ten plant systems at PFP identified as mission essential are Y2K compliant. (Planned)
- Shipped the aluminum nitrate nanohydrate (ANN) residue cake from PFP to San Jose, California, completing a WDOH commitment two weeks ahead of schedule. (Planned)

COST PERFORMANCE ($M):

	BCWP	ACWP	VARIANCE
Facility Stabilization	$74.6	$75.1	-$.5

The $.5 million (0 percent) unfavorable cost variance is within the 5 percent established threshold. Further information can be found in the Cost Variance Analysis beginning on page F: 3-1 for details at the PBS level.

SCHEDULE PERFORMANCE ($M):

	BCWP	BCWS	VARIANCE
Facility Stabilization	$74.6	$98.9	-$24.3

The $24.3 million (25 percent) unfavorable schedule variance is primarily due to the delays with the PuSH line item, B Cell clean out, and Tank 241-Z-361 venting/sampling. A Baseline Change Request (FSP-99-010) is in process to revise the baseline scope and schedule to reflect the final FY 1999 target funding. Further information can be found in the Schedule Variance Analysis beginning on page F: 4-1 for details at the PBS level.

ISSUES

1) **B CELL LEGACY GROUT CONTAINERS.** Six legacy grout containers and four newly generated containers in B Cell cannot be shipped to the 200 Area burial grounds due to heat loading and/or Transuranic (TRU) classification, delaying B Cell clean out.

   Strategy/Status: Isotopic sampling/improvement of characterization of B Cell wastes will require revised approaches to rack size reduction. Recent sampling data indicate the legacy grout containers will remain classified as remote-handled TRU (RH-TRU). Although evaluation of alternative disposition methods is ongoing, the best option appears to be storage in burial ground vaults. The project is pursuing the recommendation to temporarily store the grouted containers generated from B Cell in C Cell. This option would alleviate current and future congestion/space problems. BCR FSP-99-017 is in process to reconfigure the baseline path forward for the 324 B Cell cleanout project.

2) **TANK 241-Z-361 VENTING / SAMPLING DELAYS.** Tank venting was initially delayed because the approved Justification for Continued Operation (JCO) required a revision to address the load limit restriction of the riser. The JCO revision along with the additional training required by the work crew was completed. Efforts to complete the venting and vapor sampling were delayed again by adjusting the Standard Startup Readiness review to include an emergency drill to demonstrate readiness.

   Strategy/Status: The emergency drill was performed but received an unsatisfactory rating. An additional emergency drill is now scheduled for early April. The revised target date for tank venting is April 30, 1999, while the vapor sampling has now been moved to May 31, 1999.